



Our Reference: SMC March update

27th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Sigma Sixth Update

As we draw to the end of the spring term, I thought I would take this opportunity to update you on some key information.

2024 Examinations

The link to the Summer 2024 Examination timetable can be found [here](#). After the Easter break students will receive further guidance and information about revision sessions.

The National Exam Contingency dates are on the 6th, 13th and 26th June. These dates are set aside just in case there is a national emergency or a local issue that could result in the cancellation of any scheduled nationwide examinations. It is vital that all students remain available up until and including 26th June. Please understand these dates are not a “catch up” for individual students; students cannot miss any external exams.

We are unable to change the dates of any examinations, these are legally set. Should a student be too ill to sit an exam, the exams officer must be contacted at the earliest opportunity (before the start of the examination). The Exam Board will request a doctor’s note. Due to the nature of public examinations, there is not an opportunity to take any missed exams at a later date within this exam window. Missing an exam has serious implications for the final awarded grades.

Once an exam has started, students are not permitted to enter. If you feel your child may be late for the start of their exam, please contact the exams officer as a matter of urgency. Please note that a ‘missed bus’ or ‘bad traffic’ cannot be accepted as a reason for missing the start of examinations. Our advice is to ensure that every student is planning to arrive on site at least 30 minutes before the start of each exam.

Year 13 – Leaving Arrangements

On Friday, 21st June, year 13 students will complete their studies with us and are invited to attend our leavers Pizza Party which will take place on campus between 12.00-1.00 pm. We will be sad to say our fond farewells to them, but we are excited for their futures. Students will receive a memento of their time at Sigma Sixth, something not to miss out on!

Post-18 Pathways Support

For both year 12 and year 13 students, we continue to look for ways to enhance the wider opportunities we are able to offer. Through our student bulletin board on Google Classrooms, careers hub, and emails, we inform students of events that they should consider attending. These include: Summer Schools, Taster Events, and Open Days run by universities, colleges, and employers, both local and nationally.

These events give students the opportunity to explore their career ideas and ambitions. We strongly encourage our students to take advantage of these free events, to enable them to make an informed decision about their future career progression.

In college this term, students have experienced 'pop up' stands providing information about local employment and apprenticeship offers; year 13 students have received a session on managing finances at university; a drop-in with The University of Essex to discuss late applications and all aspects of applying to university and workshops for students specifically seeking employment. Year 12 students have received sessions on apprenticeships alongside initial introductions to the University application process. Mrs Read's letter about our Pathways Week in June for year 12 can be found [here](#).

We believe that every student can succeed and achieve their goals and dreams with the right attitude and work ethic. We are always on hand to support and guide our students.

At the end of this term, we will say a sad goodbye to Mrs Pirie, our KS5 Post-16 Inclusion Support Worker. Mrs Pirie joined CCHS in 2015 as a midday duty assistant and quickly progressed to supporting career workshops for years 7-13. Mrs Pirie came over to our campus in 2020 and has made a huge contribution to the success of our college. We wish her all the very best as she embarks on new adventures.

Sigma Sixth will close its doors for the Easter holidays after the morning session at 12.10 pm on Thursday, 28th March. There will be no lunch service and the bus will operate at its normal time so students may want to arrange alternative transportation.

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter and we look forward to welcoming students back to college on Monday, 15th April.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S McKarry
Head of College
Sigma Sixth